

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Thursday November, 15 .1711.

LONG Disputes do but serve, as *Job* says, to *Darken Counsel by Words without Knowledge.* *Job* 38.

2. Here is a Gentleman who Undertakes, as by the Title of his Paper, to prove, That adding or annexing the *Spanish* Monarchy to the Person of the Emperor, will not make the Power of the Emperor Exorbitant — How well he will perform this Negative, is not for me to determine, let the Readers judge ; I shall, with as much Impartiality as possible, and without Offence to him, sum up what has been said, without passing Judgment in my own Case, and proceed with my part of the Relation, leaving Mat-

ter of Fact to Dispute for Itself; I must ask his Patience, to speak to Things as they go.

I began with describing the Dominions the Emperor would be Master of, in such a Conjunction — That by the Picture of his Imperial Majesty, when he was Vested with Exorbitant Power, might be seen, what the Monarch we would Erect may be — I told you, that he would have three Empires, *viz. Germany, Mexico and Peru,* (for the latter was call'd an Empire, and in Riches, is equal, if not Superior to any of them) seven Kingdoms; Note, I do not call the Provinces of Old Spain, or America, King

Kingdoms, Chili excepted, tho' they are so call'd; His Kingdoms are Spain, Hungaria, Bohemia, Selavonia, and Croatia, Dalmatia, Naples Sicily, I omit Sardinia and Corsica; two Principalities, where he has many under one Title, and Transylvania; one Arch-Dukedom, viz. Of both Austrias; eight Dukedoms, viz. Silesia, Styria, Carinthia, Carniola, Luxemburg, Brabant, Milan and Mantua; besides Earl and Count of Flanders, Artois, Hainault, Tirol, Marquis of Moravia, and many other, too long to enumerate.

To this, my Opposer Answers nothing, but to my Argument of the Power of Charles V. he says, That a Book Entitled *Atlas Historique*, computes all the Emperor's Hereditary Countries, to be able to raise but 90000 Men—— I must say a Word to this Author, tho' he doubts of my being capable to read the Language it is written in—— That in the first place, tho' a great and elaborate Work, yet very good Historians have allow'd it to be Partial to the French Greatness, and Calculated to depreciate the other Powers he describes, as their Historians, Map-makers, and Geographers all are; whether it be true or no, that he says of the Emperor, let History determine; I think I gave an Instance, viz. That Charles V. Emperor of Germany having drawn up his Army at Vienna, to fight Solymán the Magnificent, had 280000 Men—— Of which 90000 Foot, and 30000 Horse were his own Troops, altho' he was not King of Hungaria or Bohemia, Croatia or Selavonia; my Opposer says, this is granting what *ATLAS HISTORIQUE* had said, except only 30000; now tho' this had been true—— it had amounted to only this, That the Author of the *Atlas* had falsify'd one third part, which is pretty much, and yet to be call'd a good Calculator too!—— But the Gentleman does me not Justice, neither in that Argument, for I instanc'd in four Armies the Emperor had besides this at the same Time; as in the Low-Countries, Naples, Afric, and Spain, and of 30000 Italians, who could not March for want of Pay; These Armies put together, I offer

to prove by Authentick History, were not less than 100000 Men, without the 30000 Italians—— Then for Ferdinand his Brother, who this Gentleman says is to be esteem'd the same Thing—— I grant it—— But his Army was not the same, for as Ch. had 120000 Men at that Time at Vienna, of his own Troops, so Ferdinand, whose especial Quarrel it was, had above 60000 Men, Hungarians, Croatsians, and Bobemians, besides all the Garrisons he possess'd in Hungaria—— All which Countries, and consequently their Forces, belong now to the Emperor; let any Man judge then, whether *Atlas Historique*, however Valuable in its Bulk, be Valuable to be quoted in this Case?

As to the Assistance the Emperor had from the King of England, it is too long a Story to enter into here; the King of England bluster'd indeed, I had almost said bully'd, and carry'd Great Words, went over with a great Army, and spent a whole Campaign about taking Bulloign; and another Time at Terouenne, but always betray'd him, and when he should have join'd his Forces with the Emperor, to have March'd to Paris, took Money from the French King, we must not call it a Bribe, and abandon'd him, when had he been faithful to his Leagues, France had been Ruin'd—— At other Times, he bluster'd high and talk'd big, but all Histories agree in so many Words to his Relief against the Turks, he sent him not a Man.

The Power then of the Emperor at that Time, without either the Treasure of Mexico and Peru, or the Forces of Hungaria, Selavonia, or Bobemia, were above 300000 Men, and if you will believe others, a great many more.

How by this Power, or let his Power be what it will, he Overthrew the Protestants, and had not Heaven averted the Stroke, had Rooted the Protestant Interest out of Germany, I have hinted already—— And the Opposer has honestly granted it.

I come now, according to the course of the Story, to give you a View of the Greatness of the Emperor after this, in the Reign

Reign of *Ferdinand II.* and of his Attempts to make himself Absolute in *Germany* — *My Opposer has granted that he endeavour'd to make himself Absolute* — So I need not enter into the Proof of it; but before I begin my Account, he has undertaken to say it was not by his own Power, but by the Concurrence of the Protestants and their Divisions, &c. And this I will grant to be Assistant to him — And bring it to serve my purpose, thus;

God forbid a Supine Negligence like that of King *James I.* and the Divisions of Protestants, like that of 1626, should now concur in the raising that Formidable Enemy again — He went then very near, by the vile, abhorr'd, and I may say unnatural Council of some Protestants, to destroy the whole Protestant Interest: What Time, what Wars, what Blood it cost, to restore and prevent it, I shall shew you for your Instruction: What need have we then to avoid the same Thing? This is a Thought makes a Man's Blood chill within him, when he thinks of our unhappy Divisions, laying a Foundation for such another Terror to *Europe*, and no Man that has any regard to the Protestant Interest, can think of it without Concern.

Who doubts, but the Division and Concurrence of *Selfish*, and *Party-bias'd* Protestants, have help'd the *Papish* Powers to their Dangerous Grearments? What but this, has rais'd *France* to that excess of Power he is now arriv'd to? Who lent *English* Men of War to oppress the *Rockallers*? Who gave Models to build Docks and Ships to *France*? Who lent *British* Troops to *France*, to fight against the States of *Holland*, and to over-run the Empire? Was it not the Protestant Councils of these Nations? Who deliver'd *Dunkirk* for Money, and ty'd the Hands of an *English* Parliament, when they would have fallen upon *France* before

his Strength was Rooted and grown too great for the rest of *Christendome*? — And is not this fair warning enough for Protestants, not to raise a New Monster, now we have spent so much to Master the Old One? — And not to put the Emperor in a Posture to Ruin the Protestants of *Germany* a third Time.

But after all this, were the History of these Times Examina'd, you will find, that King *James I.* Contributed nothing to the Conquests of the Emperor over the King of *Bohemia*, other than Negatively, as he did not Contribute the Assistance he might have done, and by which his bad Promises was expected, and by that Unfortunate Prince depended upon; he was Unnatural enough in the other, but he had been the Destroyer of his own Flesh, if he had Contributed Forces or Money to it — It is true, he basely enough forsook him in it.

On the other Hand, the Protestants were not so much divided, but that they held out 12 Years a War against the Invasions of the Emperor from the first of that War, to the Dyet of *Leipsick*, which began Feb. 4. 1631.

In the History of the Dyet of *Frankfort*, held the Year before, you will see the Case fairly stated; the Emperor *Ferdinand II.* had made a most effectual Oration, where is to be seen how far Things were gone, and what the Emperor aim'd at — The Introduction was directed to the Catholic Princes, to promote a Good Peace in the Empire; and what this Thing call'd a Good Peace was, you will see, if you mark but the Means for it.

First, He imputes the Causes of the long War to the *Palsgrave*, that is, the King of *Bohemia*, with the Protestants of the *Lower Saxony*, the King of *Danemark*, and their other Allies, this includes the whole Protestant Interest, and proposes, for Remedy, to Banish the said *Palsgrave* for ever, without any hope of returning into the Empire.

Secondly,

Secondly, The Hollanders having Sacrilegiously, and without any due Reverence to the Emperor, taken several of his Towns, and Encroach'd upon his Dominions; the boldness of those Robbers, as the Emperor calls them, must be Punish'd and Restrain'd.

There was War Denounc'd against the Principal Protestant Powers of Europe.

Thirdly, the French King having Invaded the Emperors Dominions, to use his Majesty's own Words ——— Is not to be endur'd.

Fourthly, The King of Sweden was to have a Peace offer'd, by the Mediation of Danemark, but if he refus'd to withdraw from the Empire, for he was just Landed and had taken Steclin — Then he was to be Chastiz'd with Force of Arms, and Threaten'd with the Power of the Roman Empire.

Now, not yet to enter into the History of the War that follow'd, and how this Em-

peror was match'd and over-match'd, by a Power sent from God, which he had then no Apprehensions of; let me only propose to the Readers Consideration;

1. What think you must the Power of that Prince be, who had all these Things in his View, and which could make his talking such Language as this, Rational; for he propos'd a War against almost all the Christian World.
2. In all this, the Emperor had no Assistance from the Mines of Mexico and Peru; he was neither Possess'd of Spain or the Indies; Milan, Naples, or the Netherlands; but Philip II. of Spain had, by a Power little Inferior to his, Harass'd the other Parts of the World for above 30 Years before.

Let those who are now for joining these two together, consider what they do.

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